HARMONIC COCYCLES AND COHOMOLOGY OF ARITHMETIC GROUPS (IN POSITIVE CHARACTERISTIC).

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Abstract. Let K be a global field of characteristic $p > 0$. We study the cohomology of arithmetic subgroups Γ of $SL_{n+1}(K)$ (with respect to a fixed place of K), under the hypothesis that these groups have no p'-torsion (any arithmetic group possesses a normal subgroup of finite index without p'-torsion). We define the cohomology of Γ with compact supports and values in $\mathbb{Z}[1/p]$, and we relate it to spaces of harmonic cocycles, also with compact supports (§3). We give a description of the locus of these supports, in particular by introducing a notion of cusp in dimension $n \geq 1$ (§4) and we calculate"geometrically" the Euler-Poincaré characteristic of this cohomology, up to torsion (§5).

1 Introduction.

(1.0.1) Let K be a global field of characteristic $p > 0$, i.e. the function field of a geometrically irreducible curve defined over a finite field of characteristic p. One sets $G = SL_{n+1}$, where $n \geq 1$ is an integer. Let ∞ be a fixed place of K, K_∞ be the completion of K at this place and $\mathfrak{I}$ be the the Bruhat-Tits building of $G(K_\infty)$ (see §2 for references and a brief description of this building); $\mathfrak{I}$ is a contractible simplicial complex of dimension n, where $G(K_\infty)$ acts simplicially. Let Γ be an arithmetic subgroup of $G(K_\infty)$ (see (2.4.1) for a precise definition), the $G(K_\infty)$-action induces a Γ-action on $\mathfrak{I}$.

The purpose of this paper is to give information about the cohomology of Γ, more precisely, to relate this cohomology to geometric or simplicial properties of the building $\mathfrak{I}$ or of its quotient by Γ.

Links of such kind have been studied particularly for discrete groups $\Gamma \subset G(K_\infty)$ which are *cocompact*, i.e. such that $\Gamma\backslash\mathfrak{I}$ is a finite complex, and, moreover, which are *torsion free*, and thus which *act freely* on $\mathfrak{I}$. This has been carried out by A. Borel and J.-P. Serre in [Bo-Se 2], by G.A. Mustafin in [Mus],

and, in their study of the Drinfeld symmetric spaces (which are rigid analytic realizations of the simplicial complexes $\mathfrak{I}$), by P. Schneider and U. Stuhler ([Sc-St]). When the characteristic of the base field is zero, i.e. in the p-adic case or in the classical case, many authors have studied the cohomology of arithmetic, torsion free and cocompact groups acting on $\mathfrak{I}$ or on other symmetric spaces: see for instance the three papers mentioned above, in characteristic zero, and J.-P. Serre ([Se 1]), H. Garland ([GarH]), A. Borel and J.-P. Serre ([Bo-Se 1]) etc., and a recent paper of E. de Shalitt ([dS 2]). There is also, only in dimension 1 but in all characteristics, the study of Schottky groups by Mumford curves (see [Mum] and [Ger-vdP]).

In the situation studied here, the arithmetic groups are discrete, but *they are not cocompact* (the complex $\Gamma\backslash\mathfrak{I}$ is not finite) and *they have torsion elements* (simplices of $\mathfrak{I}$ have non trivial stabilizers in Γ). When $n = 1$, i.e. in the dimension 1 case, this has been extensively studied, following the seminal work of Drinfeld [Dr] (see [Se 2] ch. 2, [Gek-Re] and [A-B]). To explain what we do here, we now recall somes properties of the dimension 1 case.

1.1 The dimension 1 case.

Let Γ be an arithmetic subgroup of $G(K) = SL_2(K)$, where K is a global field of characteristic $p > 0$.

(1.1.1) In the dimension 1 case, the building $\mathfrak{I}$ is a tree and the quotient $\Gamma\backslash\mathfrak{I}$ is a connected graph which is the union of a finite graph $(\Gamma\backslash\mathfrak{I})^\circ$ without ends and of finitely many half lines; the graph $(\Gamma\backslash\mathfrak{I})^\circ$ contains all the homology of $\Gamma\backslash\mathfrak{I}$ and the half lines corresponds to the cusps of Γ (see [Se 2] ch. 2, [vdP], see also [Gek-Re] §2).

(1.1.2) The harmonic cocycles are functions f defined on the set of oriented edges of $\mathfrak{I}$, with for instance values in $\mathbb{Z}$, such that for any oriented edge e, $f(-e) = -f(e)$, and such that for any vertex v of $\mathfrak{I}$, $\sum f(e) = 0$, where e runs in the set of edges beginning at v. An important fact is that the group $\underline{H}_!(\mathbb{Z})^\Gamma$, of $\mathbb{Z}$-valued harmonic cocycles invariant under Γ and with compact (finite) supports modulo Γ, is canonically isomorphic with $H^1(\Gamma, \mathbb{Z})$, under the hypothesis that Γ has no p'-torsion, i.e. that any torsion element of Γ is of order a power of p ([Gek-Re] prop. 3.4.5). This last hypothesis is indeed natural and not too restrictive, because any arithmetic group contains a normal subgroup of finite index and having this property (this is right in all dimensions, see 2.4).

The group $H^1(\Gamma, \mathbb{Z})$ can also be interpreted as the cohomology group of the cochain complex $(C^i(\mathbb{Z}))_{i=0,1}$ (definitions are given in §3.1, see [Se 2] ch. 2, §2.8).

(1.1.3) The graph $(\Gamma\backslash\mathfrak{I})^\circ$ has no ends; let $\overline{T}$ be one of its maximal subtrees and T be a connected subtree of $\mathfrak{I}$ wich is a lift of $\overline{T}$. Let $e_1, \cdots, e_g$be edges of $\mathfrak{I}$, beginning in T and equal modulo Γ to the edges of $((\Gamma\backslash\mathfrak{I})^\circ - \overline{T})$. Let $\gamma_1, \cdots, \gamma_g$ be elements of Γ such that the end of $\gamma_i(e_i)$ is in T $(1 \leq i \leq g)$. Then, the group $G := <\gamma_1, \cdots, \gamma_g>$ is free , it is canonically identified with the fundamental group

of $(\Gamma\backslash\mathfrak{I})^\circ$ and

$$G \subset \Gamma \to \Gamma/\Gamma_{tors}$$

is an isomorphism, where Γ_{tors} is the subgroup of Γ generated by its torsion elements ([Re], compare with [Se 2] ch. 1, §3.3). As a consequence (but it can be seen more directly, see [Gek-Re] §3.2) one has for the Euler-Poincaré characteristic of Γ with values in $\mathbb{Q}$

$$\chi(\Gamma, \mathbb{Q}) = 1 - g.$$

1.2 Summary of results.

The object of this article is to extend to the case of dimension $n > 1$ some of the properties reviewed in the preceding paragraph.

We suppose that the arithmetic group $\Gamma \subset G(K)$ has no p'-torsion. Let R be a (commutative) ring such that multiplication by p is invertible. Let $C^\cdot(R)$ be the complex of R-valued cochains, i.e.

$$C^q(R) = \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(\mathbb{Z}[\mathfrak{I}_q^\star], R)\ ,\ 0 \leq q \leq n,$$

where $\mathfrak{I}_q^\star$ is the set of oriented q- simplices of $\mathfrak{I}$. We first prove that, canonically

$$H^\cdot(\Gamma, R) \simeq H^\cdot(C^\cdot(R)^\Gamma)$$

(proposition (3.1.4)), indeed this is a direct application of an argument of J.P. Serre: [Se 1], p.95; here, the hypothesises that Γ has no p'-torsion and that p is invertible in $\mathrm{End}_{\mathbb{Z}}(R)$ are very useful. This formula leads to the definition of *cohomology of* Γ *with compact supports*, which is the part in $H^\cdot(\Gamma, R)$ corresponding in $H^\cdot(C^\cdot(R)^\Gamma)$ to the cocycles having, up to coboundaries, finite supports modulo Γ (definition (3.1.5)). Afterwards, we introduce the notion of harmonic cocycle (definition (3.2.5)), as in the paper [Ga] of H. Garland[1]. Let

$$\underline{H}_!^q(R)^\Gamma \text{ and } H_!^q(\Gamma, R)\ ,\ 0 \leq q \leq n$$

denote respectively the R-module of harmonic cocycles defined on the oriented q-simplices, invariant under Γ and with (finite) compact supports modulo Γ, and the q-th cohomological R-module of Γ with compact supports. Set $R = \mathbb{Z}[1/p]$ (indeed what we will do works for any subring of $\mathbb{R}$ containing $\mathbb{Z}[1/p]$). We prove, among other things, that the module of harmonic cocycles $\underline{H}_!^q(R)^\Gamma$ is canonically isomorphic to the torsion free submodule of $H_!^q(\Gamma, R)$ (theorem (3.3.1)). This extends to the higher dimensional case some aspects of the results recalled in (1.1.2); we will explain below (see (1.3.1)) why we obtain an isomorphism with the cohomology of Γ with compact supports, instead of the whole cohomology, as in the dimension 1 case.

[1] H. Garland writes that the idea of this notion goes back to Eckmann and Hodge. A variant, especially for the maximal rank (harmonic cocycles defined on pointed chambers), is used in [Sc-Te 1], [Sc-Te 2], [dS 1] and [dS 2].

In the 4-th paragraph, we introduce a notion of cusp for Γ. One knows that $\Gamma\backslash\mathfrak{I}$ is the "skeleton" of a modular variety M_Γ ([Dr], see also [De-Hu]), which is affine; from that point of view, the cusps are skeletons of neighborhoods of the missing part, i.e. of the difference between M_Γ and its canonical completion (but we shall not say anything in this paper about modular varieties). It is not difficult to prove that there are only finitely many cusps modulo Γ (and that they are rational over K, as in the dimension 1 case, see [Se 2] ch. 2, §2.3). They are represented modulo Γ by finitely many sectors of $\mathfrak{I}$, say $\mathcal{S}_1, \cdots, \mathcal{S}_d$, and the complementary complex in $\mathfrak{I}$ of

$$\bigcup_{1\leq i\leq d} \Gamma\mathcal{S}_i$$

is finite modulo Γ (theorem (4.2.2)). Thus, this complementary complex and the cusps, modulo Γ, give respectively an analogy with $(\Gamma\backslash\mathfrak{I})^\circ$ and the half lines (see (1.1.1)). The proof of theorem (4.2.2) is long, the argument is based on results of G. Harder (sätze 2.1.1 and 2.2.2 of [Ha 1]), concerning the locus of supports of cusp forms ([Ha 2] theorem 1.2.1).

The 5-th paragraph gives a partial generalization of (1.1.3), in calculating "geometrically" the Euler-Poincaré characteristic of Γ, for the cohomology with values in $\mathbb{Q}$. This geometric calculation is a step towards notions analogous to the group G of (1.1.3); problems, going in that way, are suggested in (5.0.5).

1.3 Some comments.

(1.3.1) Let Γ be an arithmetic group whithout p'-torsion. We have obtained a comparison theorem between the spaces $\underline{H}_!^\cdot(\mathbb{Q})^\Gamma$ of harmonic cocycles invariant under Γ, with finite supports modulo Γ and with values in $\mathbb{Q}$ (we take here just $\mathbb{Q}$ to be short) and the spaces $H_!^\cdot(\Gamma,\mathbb{Q})$ of cohomology with compact supports (theorem (3.3.1)). In the one dimensional case, $H_!^\cdot(\Gamma,\mathbb{Q})$ is replaced by the ordinary cohomology $H^\cdot(\Gamma,\mathbb{Q})$. The reason for this difference is that, in the dimension 1 case, the "simplicial complex at infinity" of $\Gamma\backslash\mathfrak{I}$ (which comes from the spherical building of $\mathfrak{I}$ at infinity, but which is *not* simply the quotient of this spherical building by Γ), chambers of which can be viewed as the cusps, is a finite complex of dimension 0 (see (1.1.1)), then there is no complexity (no cycle) at infinity. In that situation, writing P for the inverse image in $\mathfrak{I}$ of the half lines of $\Gamma\backslash\mathfrak{I}$ (the cusps, see (1.1.1)), a Mayer-Vietoris argument applied to the decomposition

$$\mathfrak{I} = (\mathfrak{I} - P) \cup P$$

yields equality between the ordinary cohomology of Γ and the cohomology with compact supports. When the dimension n is greater than 1, the simplicial complex at infinity of $\Gamma\backslash\mathfrak{I}$ is still finite, but it has dimension $n-1>0$ and it may have non trivial homology; in this case the two cohomologies of Γ are not equal. In our opinion, to give a description of the homological nature of the simplicial complex at infinity of $\Gamma\backslash\mathfrak{I}$ is a very important question, which seems to underly the conjecture (13.4.1) of [Lau]. It is related, as the next question, to calculations and interpretations of Eisenstein cohomologies (see [Ha 3] and op.cit.).

(1.3.2) In the dimension 1 case, harmonic cocycles invariant under Γ and with finite support modulo Γ can be interpreted canonically, for a suitable subgroup of the adèle group of $G(K)$, as cusp forms that transform like the special representation ([Dr], [De-Hu], [Ge-Re], [A-B], etc.). This is not so clear in dimension greater than 1. This problem is mentioned in the introduction of [dS 2] and in [Sc-St], remark (c) p. 84. Our opinion is also that this is an interesting question.

(1.3.3) Problems can be formulated to determine objects, in dimension greater than 1, similar to $G =< \gamma_1, \cdots, \gamma_g >$ (see (1.1.3)), they need notations and definitions, which are introduced in §5, then we have written this problem in (5.0.5).

2 The Bruhat-Tits building of $SL_{n+1}(K_\infty)$ (review). Notations.

2.1 Notations.

Let K denote a global field of positive characteristic p, i.e. the function field of a geometrically irreducible curve $\mathcal{C}$ defined over a finite field $\mathbb{F}$ of characteristic p; we suppose that $\mathcal{C}$ is smooth and projective. Let ∞ be a fixed place of K, i.e. a closed point of $\mathcal{C}$. One sets

(2.1.1) $$A = H^0(\mathcal{C} - \{\infty\}, \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{C}}),$$

A is the ring of elements of K regular outside ∞.

(2.1.2) Let $\mathfrak{V}$ be the set of places of K (the set of closed points of $\mathcal{C}$) and let $\mathfrak{V}_f = \mathfrak{V} - \{\infty\}$ the set of "finite places"[2] of K.

Let ω be a place of K, we denote by K_ω the completion of K at ω, by $\mathcal{O}_\omega$ its valuation ring, by $\mathbb{F}(\omega)$ the residue field and by π_ω a uniformizing parameter at ω, we suppose that π_ω is in K.

Usually, we will denote by the same letter a place and the normalized valuation of K corresponding to it, except for ∞, this valuation being denoted ω_∞. If ω is a place of K, the corrresponding normalized valuation satisfies $\omega(\pi_\omega) = [\mathbb{F}(\omega) : \mathbb{F}]$.

Let ω be a valuation of K, we denote by $\mid\ \mid_\omega$ (by $\mid\ \mid_\infty$ if $\omega = \infty$) the corresponding normalized absolute value, i.e. the absolute value which satisfies $\mid \pi_\omega \mid_\omega = \sharp(\mathbb{F}(\omega))^{-1}$.

(2.1.3) Let $n \geq 1$ be an integer, one sets

$$G = SL_{n+1}\ ,$$

let T be its standard torus (of diagonal matrices), P and U be respectively the standard Borel subgroup (of upper triangular matrices) and its unipotent radical (of matrices with in addition 1 on the diagonal). Let N be the normalizer of T in G. One sets

[2] This terminology comes from an analogy with the classical case: A and K look like respectively $\mathbb{Z}$ and $\mathbb{Q}$, the place ∞ like the archimedean place of $\mathbb{Q}$...

$\overline{W} = N(K_\infty)/T(K_\infty)$: the linear Weyl group ,
$W = N(K_\infty)/T(\mathcal{O}_\infty)$: the affine Weyl group.
Let B_∞ be the inverse image of $P(\mathbb{F}(\infty))$ by the natural map $G(\mathcal{O}_\infty) \to G(\mathbb{F}(\infty))$.

Θ Let $\mathbb{A}$ (resp. $\mathbb{A}_f$), be the ring of adèles (resp. finite adèles) of K, i.e. the set of elements $(f_\omega) \in \prod K_\omega$, where ω runs in $\mathfrak{V}$ (resp. $\mathfrak{V}_f$), such that $f_\omega \in \mathcal{O}_\omega$ except for finitely many places ω. The groups of adèles and finite adèles of $G(K)$ are denoted respectively $G(\mathbb{A})$ and $G(\mathbb{A}_f)$.

(2.1.4) *The groups of characters and of* 1*-parameter subgroups.* Let

$$X^\star = \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathrm{gr}}(T(K_\infty), K_\infty^\star) \ \text{ and } \ X_\star = \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathrm{gr}}(K_\infty^\star, T(K_\infty))$$

be the groups of characters and of 1-parameter subgroups of T (we do not distinguish between T, $\mathbb{G}_m$ and their K_∞-valued points because these groups are split). They are both free abelian groups of rank n. For any i, $0 \le i \le n$, let $\chi_i \in X^\star$ be the character which maps $t = \mathrm{diag}(t_o, \cdots, t_n) \in T(K_\infty^\star)$ to t_i, then

$$\{\chi_i \ / \ 0 \le i \le n\}$$

generates $X^\star$ and any of its subsets with n elements is a basis. For any i, $0 \le i \le n-1$, let $\lambda_i \in X_\star$ be the 1-parameter subgroup which maps $z \in K_\infty^\star$ to $t = \mathrm{diag}(t_o, \cdots, t_n)$ such that $t_j = 1$ if $j \ne i, i+1$, $t_i = z$ and $t_{i+1} = z^{-1}$. Then

$$\{\lambda_i \ / \ 0 \le i \le n-1\}$$

is a basis of $X_\star$. There exists a perfect pairing

$$X^\star \ \times \ X_\star \ \to \ \mathbb{Z}$$

which to (χ, λ) associates the integer m such that, for any z in $K_\infty^\star$, $\chi(\lambda(z)) = z^m$ (see for instance [Bo] §8).

Note that $N(K_\infty)$ acts on $X^\star$ and $X_\star$ via its action on $T(K_\infty)$ by conjugation.

2.2 The building $\mathfrak{I}$.

Now we recall some basic facts about the Bruhat-Tits building $\mathfrak{I}$ of $G(K_\infty)$. For generalities on complexes and buildings, see [Ro], [Bro] and [GarP]. The building of $G(K_\infty)$ is completely described in [Bru-Ti], there is a good introduction to this topic in [Lan].

Let $\mathcal{S}$ be a simplicial complex. We denote by $\mathcal{S}_q$ the set of its simplices of dimension q. Let $\mathcal{S}'$ be a subcomplex of $\mathcal{S}$; recall that, by definifion, $\mathcal{S}'$ is a union of closed simplexes, recall also that the complementary complex of $\mathcal{S}'$ in $\mathcal{S}$ is the minimal subcomplex containing the complementary set of $\mathcal{S}'$ in $\mathcal{S}$, then, maybe, $\mathcal{S}'$ and its complementary complex have common simplices.

(2.2.1) *The fundamental apartment.* Let

$$V_0 = X_\star \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{R},$$

it is a real vector space with basis

$$\{e_i = \lambda_i \otimes 1 \ / \ 0 \leq i \leq n-1\}.$$

The pairing between $X^\star$ and $X_\star$, introduced in (2.1.4), induces a pairing between V_0 and $X^\star \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{R}$, denoted by $< \cdot, \cdot >$; it gives the identification

$$V_0^\star = X^\star \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{R}$$

where $V_0^\star$ is the dual space of V_0. We set

$$a_i = \chi_i \otimes 1 \ , \ 0 \leq i \leq n \text{ and } a_{i,j} = a_i - a_j \ , \ 0 \leq i, j \leq n,$$

the $a_{i,j}$'s, $i \neq j$, are the roots of $G(K_\infty)$ relative to $T(K_\infty)$ ([Bo] §8.17).

The vector space V_0 is a Coxeter complex, the walls of the chambers being the hyperplanes

$$\{< a_{i,j}, \cdot > +k = 0\} \ , \ 0 \leq i \leq n \ , \ k \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

The torus $T(K_\infty)$ acts on V_0 by translations: the translation corresponding to $t = \mathrm{diag}(t_0, \cdots, t_n)$ is given by the vector

$$\sum_{0 \leq i \leq n-1} m_i e_i \text{ where } m_i = -(\omega_\infty(t_0) + \cdots + \omega_\infty(t_i)) \ ,$$

then, for any i, $0 \leq i \leq n-1$, and for any $z \in K_\infty^\star$, the translation in V_0 corresponding to $\lambda_i(z)$ is given by the vector $-\omega_\infty(z) e_i$. This action gives a map $T(K_\infty)/T(\mathcal{O}_\infty) \to V_0$ (because $T(\mathcal{O}_\infty)$ acts trivially on V_0).

The normalizer $N(K_\infty)$ acts on V_0, this action comes from the action on $X_\star$, for this action $T(K_\infty)$ acts trivially on V_0. It follows a map $N(K_\infty)/T(K_\infty) \to GL(V_0)$.

Everything that we have said about the different actions on V_0 can be summarized in the following diagram (compare with [Lan], proof of lemma 1.7)

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc}
0 & \longrightarrow & \frac{T(K_\infty)}{T(\mathcal{O}_\infty)} \simeq \mathbb{Z}^n & \longrightarrow & \frac{N(K_\infty)}{T(\mathcal{O}_\infty)} = W & \longrightarrow & \frac{N(K_\infty)}{T(K_\infty)} = \overline{W} & \longrightarrow & 0 \\
 & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
0 & \longrightarrow & V_0 & \longrightarrow & GL(V_0) \propto V_0 & \longrightarrow & GL(V_0) & \longrightarrow & 0
\end{array}$$

where the two arrows are exact, the second vertical map is induced by the two others, which are explained above; $GL(V_0) \propto V_0$ is the affine transformation group of V_0.

The space V_0 equipped with its simplicial structure and with the previous affine action of W (or of $N(K_\infty)$) is called *the fundamental apartment of the building* $\mathfrak{I}$; one now defines this building.

(2.2.2) *Definition of the building.* Let i, j be integers such that $0 \leq i \neq j \leq n$ and let $U_{i,j}$ be the subgroups of $u = (u_{k,l}) \in U(K_\infty)$ (see (2.1.3)) such that $u_{k,l} = 0$ if $k \neq l$ and $(k,l) \neq (i,j)$. For any $x \in V_0$ let

$$U_{i,j,x} = \{u = (u_{k,l}) \in U_{i,j} \ / \ \omega_\infty(u_{i,j}) + < a_{i,j}, x > \geq 0\}$$

and let U_x be the group generated by the $U_{i,j,x}$'s, $0 \leq i \neq j \leq n$.

On $G(K_\infty) \times V_0$ one has the following equivalence relation ([Bru-Ti] 2.5 and 7.4, see also [Lan] §9): let (g, x) and (h, y) be in $G(K_\infty) \times V_0$, they are said to be equivalent (and one writes $(g, x) \sim (h, y)$) if there exists $n \in N(K_\infty)$ such that $y = nx$ and $g^{-1}hn \in U_x$. Let

$$\mathfrak{I} \ = \ \frac{G(K_\infty) \times V_0}{\sim}.$$

One has $V_0 \subset \mathfrak{I}$ canonically, by $x \mapsto \mathrm{Class}(1, x)$. The group $G(K_\infty)$ acts on $\mathfrak{I}$ (if $g, h \in G(K_\infty)$ and $x \in V_0$, the action of g on $\mathrm{Class}(h, x)$ gives $\mathrm{Class}(gh, x)$) and this action extends the one of W on V_0. For any $x \in V_0 \subset \mathfrak{I}$, the stabilizer of x in $G(K_\infty)$ is the group

$$P_x := \langle U_x \ , \ N_x \rangle \text{ where } N_x = \{n \in N(K_\infty) \ / \ nx = x\},$$

This is a bounded subgroup of $G(K_\infty)$, for the ∞-topology.

$\mathfrak{I}$ has a simplicial structure, which is induced by that of V_0, indeed $\mathfrak{I}$ is an affine building, its apartments are of the form gV_0, for $g \in G(K_\infty)$, the action of $G(K_\infty)$ on $\mathfrak{I}$ is simplicial. The building $\mathfrak{I}$ is the *Bruhat-Tits building of* $G(K_\infty)$.

(2.2.3) *Another point of view.* We now recall the description of the building $\mathfrak{I}$ by $\mathcal{O}_\infty$-submodules of K_∞^{n+1} (see [GarP] ch. 19).

We mentioned above that V_0 is a Coxeter complex (see (2.2.1)). It follows from the definition of the walls of the chambers that a point $v = \sum_{0 \leq i \leq n-1} m_i e_i$ (with $m_i \in \mathbb{R}$) of V_0 is a vertex if and only if for each i, j, $0 \leq i, j \leq n$, $< a_{i,j}, v > \in \mathbb{Z}$.

On K_∞^{n+1} one considers the following $G(K_\infty)$-action: for any $z \in K_\infty^{n+1}$ and any $g \in G(K_\infty)$, the action of g on z is given by the product of matrices zg^{-1}, z being viewed as a one-line matrix. Note that, in [GarP] ch. 19, gz is chosen, with z viewed as a one-column matrix. Let $\{u_0, \cdots, u_n\}$ be the canonical basis of K_∞^{n+1}.

Let $v = \sum_{0 \leq i \leq n-1} m_i e_i$ be a vertex of V_0. We set

$$M_v = \bigoplus_{0 \leq i \leq n} \pi_\infty^{< a_{i,n}, v >} \mathcal{O}_\infty u_i.$$

This is an $\mathcal{O}_\infty$-submodule of K_∞^{n+1} of maximal rank $n+1$. Note that for any $t = \mathrm{diag}(t_0, \cdots, t_n) \in T(K_\infty)$, one has $M_{tv} = t(M_v)$, where, on the left, tv is given by the action of t on V_0 (see (2.2.1)) and, on the right, by the preceding action on K_∞^{n+1}.

Let $\mathfrak{I}'$ be the building of homothety classes $[M]$ of $\mathcal{O}_\infty$-submodule M of K_∞^{n+1} with rank $n+1$ (see [GarP] ch. 19). Then, the map $v \mapsto [M_v]$ induces a simplicial isomorphism between V_0 in $\mathfrak{I}$ and the apartement of $\mathfrak{I}'$ with frame $\{\mathcal{O}_\infty u_0, \cdots, \mathcal{O}_\infty u_n\}$ (op. cit.). With the $G(K_\infty)$-action described above, it follows that there is a $G(K_\infty)$-isomorphism $\mathfrak{I} \simeq \mathfrak{I}'$.

(2.2.4) *The fundamental chamber.* Let C_0 be the set of $x \in V_0$ such that

$$< a_{i,i+1}, x >> 0 \ , \ 0 \leq i \leq n-1 \ \text{ and } \ < a_{n,0}, x > +1 > 0.$$

By the isomorphism of (2.2.3), it corresponds in $\mathfrak{I}'$ to the chamber having vertices $[M_0], \cdots, [M_n]$ with

$$\begin{aligned} M_0 &= \mathcal{O}_\infty u_0 \oplus \cdots \oplus \mathcal{O}_\infty u_n \\ M_{i+1} &= \pi_\infty \mathcal{O}_\infty u_0 \oplus \cdots \oplus \pi_\infty \mathcal{O}_\infty u_i \oplus \mathcal{O}_\infty u_i \oplus \cdots \mathcal{O}_\infty u_n \ , \ 0 \leq i \leq n-1. \end{aligned}$$

More precisely, C_0 is a chamber of $\mathfrak{I}$ having vertices v_i, $0 \leq i \leq n$, such that v_0 is the origin 0 of V_0 and v_{i+1} is defined by

$$< a_{k,k+1}, v_{i+1} >= 0 \text{ for all } k, \ k \neq i, \ 0 \leq k \leq n-1 \text{ and } < a_{i,i+1}, v_{i+1} >= 1.$$

One has $M_{v_i} = M_i$, $0 \leq i \leq n$. It follows from [GarP] ch. 19, §4, that the stabilizer of C_0 in $G(K_\infty)$ is the parahoric subgroup B_∞ (see (2.1.3)).

This chamber C_0 is called *the fundamental chamber*, its vertex corresponding to the origin $0 \in V_0$ is called *the fundamental vertex.*

2.3 The spherical building at infinity.

Let $\mathfrak{I}_\infty$ be the spherical building at infinity of $\mathfrak{I}$. We shall say almost nothing about this building, for a complete description, see for instance [Bro] ch. VI, §9. As generality, one just recalls that $\mathfrak{I}_\infty$ is constructed by attaching to each apartment of $\mathfrak{I}$ a sphere at infinity; a point of $\mathfrak{I}_\infty$ is an equivalent class of half lines, for the relation of parallelism.

The group $G(K_\infty)$ acts on $\mathfrak{I}_\infty$ and this action is compatible with that on $\mathfrak{I}$. Let $\overline{W}$ be the linear Weyl group (see (2.1.3)), one knows that $\overline{W}$ is a finite reflexion group acting on V_0, this last one carrying the structure of Coxeter complex associated to $\overline{W}$ ([Bro] ch. I and II).

(2.3.1) Let v be a vertex of $\mathfrak{I}$, $v \in V_0$, a *sector* of $\mathfrak{I}$ in V_0, with vertex v, or beginning in v, is the (topological) closure of $v + \mathcal{C}$, where $\mathcal{C} \subset V_0$ is a chamber for the simplicial stucture of V_0 coming from $\overline{W}$. A sector of $\mathfrak{I}$ is the image under the $G(K_\infty)$-action of a sector of $\mathfrak{I}$ in V_0.

(2.3.2) *Remark.* **(1)** A sector of $\mathfrak{I}$ in V_0 is a closed simplicial cone of V_0 (viewed as an apartment of $\mathfrak{I}$). There is the following geometric description: take a chamber C of $\mathfrak{I}$ in V_0, let v be a vertex of C and $H_1, \cdots, H_n$ be the walls of C containing v. Let S be the closure of the connected component of

$$V_0 - H_1 \cup \cdots \cup H_n$$

containing C. Then S is a sector of $\mathfrak{I}$ in V_0, with vertex v, and all these sectors have this form.

(2) Our definition implies that a sector of $\mathfrak{I}$ is a subcomplex of $\mathfrak{I}$; this is the reason why we insist that the sectors be closed, which is not always the case in the literature (as in [Bro]).

(2.3.3) Let v be a vertex of $\mathfrak{I}$ and let Σ_v be the set of sectors of $\mathfrak{I}$ with vertex v. Then, there is a one to one map between Σ_v and the set of closed chambers of $\mathfrak{I}_\infty$, which to each $S \in \Sigma_v$ associates the closed chamber $\overline{\Delta}_\infty$ of $\mathfrak{I}_\infty$ equal to the set of all equivalent classes of half lines beginning in v and contained in S ([Bro] ch. VI, §9, lemma 2). One says that the closed chamber $\overline{\Delta}_\infty$ is defined by the sector S or that the sector S ends at $\overline{\Delta}_\infty$; if Δ_∞ is the chamber of $\mathfrak{I}_\infty$ with closure $\overline{\Delta}_\infty$, one also says that Δ_∞ is defined by S or that S ends at Δ_∞.

(2.3.4) Let S and S' be two sectors of $\mathfrak{I}$ (with different vertices) defining the same chamber Δ_∞ of $\mathfrak{I}_\infty$, then there exists a sector S'' contained in S and S' and defining the same chamber Δ_∞ of $\mathfrak{I}_\infty$ (op.cit. lemma 4).

(2.3.5) *The fundamental sector.* Let H_i be the hyperplane of V_0, defined by $< a_{i,i+1}, \cdot >= 0$, $0 \leq i \leq n-1$. Let S_0 be the sector of V_0 which contains the fundamental chamber and which is the closure of a connected component of

$$V_0 - H_0 \cup \cdots \cup H_{n-1}.$$

Then, the vertex of S_0 is the fundamental vertex v_0 and one has

$$S_0 = \{x \in V_0 \ / \ < a_{i,i+1}, x > \geq 0 \ , \ 0 \leq i \leq n-1\}.$$

This sector S_0 is called *the fundamental sector.*

Let C_∞ be the chamber of $\mathfrak{I}_\infty$ defined by the fundamental sector S_0. One calls this *the fundamental chamber at infinity.*

(2.3.6 Let K_∞^{n+1} be equipped by the $G(K_\infty)$-action as before (see (2.2.3)). There exists a $G(K_\infty)$-isomorphism between the building $\mathfrak{I}_\infty$ and the building of flags of K_∞^{n+1}, which is compatible with that described in (2.2.3) (arguments to prove that are closed to those of (2.2.3), see for instance [Bro] ch.VI, §9). Via this isomorphism, the fundamental chamber C_∞ corresponds to the flag with vertices

$$K_\infty u_{n-i} \oplus \cdots \oplus K_\infty u_n \quad , \quad 0 \leq i \leq n$$

($\{u_0, \cdots, u_n\}$ is the canonical basis of K_∞^{n+1}). Then it is clear that the stabilizer of C_∞ in $G(K_\infty)$ is $P(K_\infty)$. There is a canonical $G(K_\infty)$-equivariant bijection of the set of chambers of $\mathfrak{I}_\infty$ with $G(K_\infty)/P(K_\infty)$.

2.4 Arithmetic groups.

A subgroup of $G(K)$ is called arithmetic if it is commensurable with $G(A)$ (see (2.1.1)). Such a group Γ is discrete in $G(K_\infty)$ for the ∞-topology and the stabilizer in Γ of any simplex of $\mathfrak{I}$ is finite.

For any arithmetic subgroup Γ of $G(K)$, there exists an ideal I of A, $I \neq 0$, such that

$$\Gamma(I) := \ker(G(A) \xrightarrow{\text{canonical}} G(A/I))$$

is a subgroup of Γ with finite index. The groups of the form $\Gamma(I)$ are whithout p'-torsion, it means that any torsion element of $\Gamma(I)$ is of order a power of the characteristic p of the base field.

3 Harmonic cocycles and cohomology.

In all this paragraph, the letter Γ denotes a subgroup of $G(K)$ which is arithmetic. We suppose that

(3.0.1) Γ *has no p'-torsion, i.e. that the order of any torsion element of* Γ *is a power of p, where p is the characteristic of K.*

Note that this hypothesis is not too restrictive, see 2.4.

3.1 Cohomology of Γ.

Let $0 \leq q \leq n$ be an integer and let $\mathfrak{I}_q^*$ be the set of *oriented* q-simplices of $\mathfrak{I}$; recall that a q-simplex is oriented if it is equipped with an equivalent class of total orderings of its vertices, two orderings being equivalent if they differ by an even permutation of the vertices. Let $\mathbb{Z}[\mathfrak{I}_q^*]$ be the $\mathbb{Z}$-module generated by the *oriented* q-simplices of $\mathfrak{I}$, with the relations, when $q \neq 0$, $\sigma_1 + \sigma_2 = 0$, if σ_1 and σ_2 are the two oriented q-simplices corresponding to the same non oriented q-simplex. For $1 \leq q \leq n$, let $\partial_q : \mathbb{Z}[\mathfrak{I}_q^*] \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}[\mathfrak{I}_{q-1}^*]$ be the morphism of $\mathbb{Z}$-modules which maps the oriented simplex $[v_0, \cdots, v_q]$ ($v_0, \cdots, v_q$ are its vertices) to $\sum_{0\leq i\leq q}(-1)^i[v_0, \cdots, \hat{v}_i, \cdots, v_q]$, where the hat in $\hat{v}_i$ means that this term is omitted. Let $\varepsilon : \mathfrak{I}_0(M) \longrightarrow M$ be the augmentation map (which to each finite sum $\sum_\sigma a_\sigma \sigma$, $\sigma \in \mathfrak{I}_0(M)$ and $a_\sigma \in \mathbb{Z}$, associates $\sum_\sigma a_\sigma$).

Note that Γ acts on each $\mathbb{Z}[\mathfrak{I}_q^*]$ (by the restriction of the action of $G(K_\infty)$) and that the maps ∂_q are morphisms of $\mathbb{Z}[\Gamma]$-modules.

It is wellknown that the following sequence of $\mathbb{Z}[\Gamma]$-modules

(3.1.1) $$0 \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}[\mathfrak{I}_n^*] \xrightarrow{\partial_n} \cdots \xrightarrow{\partial_{q+1}} \mathbb{Z}[\mathfrak{I}_q^*] \xrightarrow{\partial_q} \cdots \xrightarrow{\partial_1} \mathbb{Z}[\mathfrak{I}_0^*] \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} \mathbb{Z} \longrightarrow 0$$

is exact (because $\mathfrak{I}$ is contractible) and that it is split.

(3.1.2) Let R be a $\mathbb{Z}$-module. We suppose that *multiplication by the characteristic p of K is invertible in $End_{\mathbb{Z}}(R)$.* This hypothesis will be necessary in (3.1.4). For $0 \leq q \leq n$, we set $C^q(R) = Hom_{\mathbb{Z}}(\mathbb{Z}[\mathfrak{I}_q^*], R)$; we suppose that Γ acts trivially on R, then $C^q(R)$ is equiped with the usual action of Γ $f \overset{\gamma}{\mapsto} f \circ \gamma^{-1}$ (f in $C^q(R)$, γ in Γ). Let $d^q : C^q(R) \longrightarrow C^{q+1}(R)$ be the map defined by $f \mapsto f \circ \partial_{q+1}$, where f belongs to $C^q(R)$ and $0 \leq q \leq n-1$; let $e : R \longrightarrow C^0(R)$ be the map $r \mapsto r\varepsilon$, $r \in R$. They are maps of $R[\Gamma]$-modules.

(3.1.3) *The following sequence of $R[\Gamma]$-modules is exact*

$$0 \longrightarrow R \xrightarrow{e} C^0(R) \xrightarrow{d^0} \cdots \xrightarrow{d^{q-1}} C^q(R) \xrightarrow{d^q} \cdots \xrightarrow{d^{n-1}} C^n(R) \longrightarrow 0.$$

This is a direct consequence of the fact that (3.1.1) is exact and split.

(3.1.4) Proposition. *One has natural isomorphisms of $\mathbb{Z}$-modules*

$$H^{\cdot}(\Gamma, R) \simeq H^{\cdot}(C^{\cdot}(R)^{\Gamma}).$$

The left hand side term is the cohomology of Γ with value in the trivial Γ-module R, on the right this is the cohomology of the complex $C^{\cdot}(R)^{\Gamma}$ ($\{\ \}^{\Gamma}$ is the subset of $\{\ \}$ of its elements invariant under Γ).

Proof. The argument of the proof is from J.P. Serre ([Se 1], p.95). Consider an injective resolution of $C^{\cdot}(R)$ in the category of complexes of $R[\Gamma]$-modules and apply the functor $H^0(\Gamma, \ )$. Consider the usual two spectral sequences which tend both to the cohomology of the total complex. It follows from (3.1.3) that the second spectral sequence degenerates in the E_2 term, which implies that the cohomology of the total complex is $H^{\cdot}(\Gamma, R)$.

On the other hand, we have

$$C^q(R) = Hom_{\mathbb{Z}}(\mathbb{Z}[\mathfrak{I}_q^*], R) = Hom_{\mathbb{Z}}(\coprod_{\sigma} \mathbb{Z}[\Gamma/\Gamma_\sigma], R) = \prod_{\sigma} Hom_{\mathbb{Z}}(\mathbb{Z}[\Gamma/\Gamma_\sigma], R)$$

where σ runs in a representative set of $\mathfrak{I}_q^*$ modulo Γ, Γ_σ is the stabilizer of σ in Γ and where $\mathbb{Z}[\Gamma/\Gamma_\sigma]$ is the free $\mathbb{Z}$-module with basis Γ/Γ_σ. We also have

$$Hom_{\mathbb{Z}}(\mathbb{Z}[\Gamma/\Gamma_\sigma], R) \simeq Hom_{\mathbb{Z}[\Gamma_\sigma]}(\mathbb{Z}[\Gamma], R) = coind_{\Gamma_\sigma}^{\Gamma}(R)$$

this isomorphism coming from the fact that the action of Γ_σ on R is trivial. Then

$$H^{\cdot}(\Gamma, C^q(R)) \simeq \prod_{\sigma} H^{\cdot}(\Gamma, coind_{\Gamma_\sigma}^{\Gamma}(R)) \simeq \prod_{\sigma} H^{\cdot}(\Gamma_\sigma, R)$$

the last isomorphism being given by the Shapiro's lemma. As Γ is without p'-torsion and because multiplication by p is invertible in $End_{\mathbb{Z}}(R)$, one has $H^q(\Gamma_\sigma, R) = 0$ for all $q > 0$. It follows that the first spectral sequence degenerates also in the E_2 term and then that the cohomology of the total complex is that of $C^{\cdot}(R)^{\Gamma}$. $\square$

Then, we are interested by the cohomology of the complex $C^q(R)^{\Gamma}$. The following definition precises an important part of this cohomology.

(3.1.5) Definition. *Let R be a $\mathbb{Z}$-module such that multiplication by p is invertible in $End_{\mathbb{Z}}(R)$. Let Γ be an arithmetic group. For any integer q, $0 \leq q \leq n$, we denote by $Z_!^q(R)^\Gamma$ the set of elements of $Z^q(R)^\Gamma = (Kerd^q)^\Gamma$ (see (3.1.3)) which have finite supports modulo Γ; let $H_!^q(\Gamma, R)$ be its image in $H^q(\Gamma, R)$ by*

$$Z_!^q(R)^\Gamma \subset Z^q(R)^\Gamma \xrightarrow{\text{can. surj.}} H^q(C^{\cdot}(R)^\Gamma) \simeq H^q(\Gamma, R)$$

(see (3.1.4)). We say that $H_!^q(\Gamma, R)$ is the q-th R-module of cohomology with compact (finite) supports of the arithmetic group Γ.

(3.1.6) Remark. The cohomology groups $H^{\cdot}(\Gamma, R)$ are finitely generated R- modules. This is wellknown when $n = 1$ (see e.g. [Ge-Re]), when $n > 1$, it comes from the fact that the arithmetic groups are of finite type ([Be 1], see also [Be 2]).

3.2 Harmonic cocycles.

(3.2.1) Let s and σ be two oriented simplices of $\mathfrak{I}$.

One says that s is an oriented face of σ, and one writes $s < \sigma$, if, as non oriented simplices, s is a face of σ and if the orientation of s is the restriction of that of σ.

Write $\sigma = [v_0, \cdots, v_q]$, where $v_0, \cdots, v_q$ are the vertices of σ with a numbering which represents their equivalent class of orderings. Then, an oriented face s of σ of codimension one can be written $s = [v_0, \cdots, \hat{v}_i, \cdots, v_q]$. We set $\eta(s, \sigma) = (-1)^i$, it does not depend on the choice in an equivalent class of the ordering of the vertices of σ.

As before, R is a $\mathbb{Z}$-module.

(3.2.2) Definition. *Let g be an element of $C^q(R)$, with $1 \leq q \leq n$, let $s \in \mathfrak{I}_{q-1}^*$ be an oriented $q-1$-simplex. We set*

$$\delta^q(g)(s) = \sum_{\sigma \in \mathfrak{I}_q^*, \sigma > s} \eta(s, \sigma) g(\sigma)$$

the function $\delta^q(g)$ is an element of $C^{q-1}(R)$ and δ^q is a R-linear and $G(K_\infty)$-linear map from $C^q(R)$ to $C^{q-1}(R)$, $1 \leq q \leq n$.

We also set $\delta^0 = 0 : C^0(R) \to R$.

(3.2.3) Remark. (i) Let g be an element of $C^q(R)$, with $1 \leq q \leq n$, let $s \in \mathfrak{I}_{q-1}^*$ be an oriented $(q-1)$-simplex. Let $\sigma \in \mathfrak{I}_q^*$ and suppose that s is an oriented face of σ. If we write $s = [v_0, \cdots, v_{q-1}]$, we have, up to equivalence of orderings of the vertices, two possibilities for σ, the vertex v of σ not in s being fixed, namely $\sigma = \sigma_1 = [v, v_0, \cdots, v_{q-1}]$ and $\sigma = \sigma_2 = [v_0, v, \cdots, v_{q-1}]$. We have $\eta(s, \sigma_1) g(\sigma_1) = \eta(s, \sigma_2) g(\sigma_2)$. Then we can write

$$1/2(\eta(s, \sigma_1) g(\sigma_1) + \eta(s, \sigma_2) g(\sigma_2)) = \eta(s, \sigma_1) g(\sigma_1) = \eta(s, \sigma_2) g(\sigma_2)$$

and

$$1/2 \sum_{\sigma \in \mathfrak{I}_q^*, \sigma > s} \eta(s,\sigma) g(\sigma)$$

makes sense (see the previous definition), but, with this formula as definition of δ^q, the following remark is wrong.

(ii) Let f and g be in $C^q(R)$, $1 \leq q \leq n$, and suppose that

$$(f,g)_q \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} \sum_{\sigma \in \mathfrak{I}_q^*} f(\sigma) g(\sigma)$$

makes sense, suppose moreover that $q \geq 1$ and that $f = d^{q-1}(h)$, with $h \in C^{q-1}(R)$, suppose also that $(h, \delta^q(g))_{q-1}$ makes also sense. Then, it is not difficult to prove that

$$(d^{q-1}(h), g)_q = (h, \delta^q(g))_{q-1}$$

then, we see that our next definitions of laplacians and harmonic cocycles are classical (see [GarH]).

(3.2.4) Definition. *Let q be an integer, $1 \leq q \leq n$, the q-th laplacian is the map $\Delta^q \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \delta^{q+1} \circ d^q + d^{q-1} \circ \delta^q : C^q(R) \longrightarrow C^q(R)$. We also set $\Delta^0 = \delta^1 \circ d^0$.*

(3.2.5) Definition. *Let q be an integer, $0 \leq q \leq n$, we say that an element f of $C^q(R)$ is an harmonic cocycle of level q, or an harmonic q-cocycle, with values in R, if f is in the kernel of Δ^q . Let $\underline{H}^q(R)$ be the set of harmonic cocycles of level q with values in R (then $\underline{H}^q(R) = Ker(\Delta^q)$).*

Let Γ be a subgroup of $G(K_\infty)$. Let also $\underline{H}^q(R)^\Gamma$ be the set of q-harmonic cocycles which are invariant under the Γ-action and $\underline{H}^q_!(R)^\Gamma$ be the set of those which moreover have compact (finite) support modulo Γ.

(3.2.6) Remark. *Suppose, as in (3.2.3), that all the expressions written with $(\ ,\ )$. have sense. Take $f \in C^q(R)$, we have*

$$(\Delta^q(f), f)_q = (\delta^{q+1} \circ d^q(f), f)_q + (d^{q-1} \circ \delta^q(f), f)_q = (d^q(f), d^q(f))_{q+1} + (\delta^q(f), \delta^q(f))_{q-1}$$

Then, if for instance $R \subset \mathbb{R}$, one has $\Delta^q(f) = 0$ if and only if $d^q(f) = 0$ and $\delta^q(f) = 0$.

The next proposition give an important case where this characterization is valid.

(3.2.7) Proposition. *Let Γ be an arithmetic group and let R be a subring of $\mathbb{R}$. Let $f \in C^q(R)^\Gamma$ (f is stable under Γ), with $0 \leq q \leq n$. Suppose that the support of f is finite modulo Γ, then f is an harmonic cocycle if and only if $d^q(f) = 0$ and $\delta^q(f) = 0$.*

Proof. For any q, $1 \leq q \leq n$, set $C^q(\Gamma \backslash \mathfrak{I}^\star, R) = Hom_{\mathbb{Z}}(\mathbb{Z}[\Gamma \backslash \mathfrak{I}_q^\star], R)$. For any q, $1 \leq q \leq n$, for any $f \in C^q(\Gamma \backslash \mathfrak{I}^\star, R)$ and any $s \in \Gamma \backslash \mathfrak{I}^\star_{q-1}$, let

$$\delta_1^q(f)(s) = \sum_{\sigma \in \Gamma \backslash \mathfrak{I}_q^\star, \sigma > s} \eta(s,\sigma) \frac{\sharp(\Gamma_s)}{\sharp(\Gamma_\sigma)} f(\sigma)$$

(see (3.2.1)), where Γ_s and Γ_σ are the stabilizers in Γ of lifts in $\mathfrak{I}$, say $\tilde{s}$ and $\tilde{\sigma}$, of s and σ, where, if $\tilde{s}$ and $\tilde{\sigma}$ are chosen such that $\tilde{s}$ is a face of $\tilde{\sigma}$, one has writen $\eta(s,\sigma)$ in place of $\eta(\tilde{s},\tilde{\sigma})$. We also set $\delta_1^0 = 0$.

For any q, $0 \leq q \leq n-1$, for any $f \in C^q(\Gamma\backslash\mathfrak{I}^\star, B)$ and any $\Sigma \in \Gamma\backslash\mathfrak{I}^\star_{q+1}$ let

$$d_1^q(f)(\Sigma) = \sum_{\sigma\in\Gamma\backslash\mathfrak{I}^\star_q, \sigma<\Sigma} \eta(\sigma,\Sigma)f(\sigma).$$

We also set $d_1^n = 0$.

A function $f \in C^q(R)^\Gamma$ gives rise to one, say f_1, in $C^q(\Gamma\backslash\mathfrak{I}^\star, R)$ (if σ_1 is the class mod. Γ of $\sigma \in \mathfrak{I}^\star_q$, we have $f_1(\sigma_1) = f(\sigma)$) and it is not difficult to see that

$$\delta^q(f) = \delta_1^q(f_1) \quad , \quad d^q(f) = d_1^q(f_1).$$

For $f, g \in C^q(\Gamma\backslash\mathfrak{I}^\star, R)$, f or g having a finite support, let

$$(f,g)_q^\Gamma = \sum_{\sigma\in\Gamma\backslash\mathfrak{I}^\star_q} \frac{1}{\sharp(\Gamma_\sigma)} f(\sigma)g(\sigma).$$

Let $1 \leq q \leq n$, $f \in C^{q-1}(\Gamma\backslash\mathfrak{I}^\star, R)$ and $g \in C^q(\Gamma\backslash\mathfrak{I}^\star, R)$, f or g having a finite support, one has

$$(d_1^{q-1}(f), g)_q^\Gamma = (f, \delta_1^q(g))_{q-1}^\Gamma.$$

It follows that, for any q, $1 \leq q \leq n$, and any $g \in C^q(\Gamma\backslash\mathfrak{I}^\star, R)$

$$(\delta_1^{q+1}\circ d_1^q(g) \;+\; d_1^{q-1}\circ\delta_1^q(g)\;,\; g)_q^\Gamma \;=\; (d_1^q(g), d_1^q(g))_{q+1}^\Gamma \;+\; (\delta_1^q(g), \delta_1^q(g))_{q-1}^\Gamma\;.$$

The proof for $q = 0$ uses the same arguments. $\square$

3.3 Harmonic cocycles and cohomology of Γ.

The aim of this paragraph is to prove the theorem (3.3.1) about the cohomology with compact supports of an arithmetic group Γ, which is defined in (3.1.5). Recall that p is the characteristic of our base field K and that we say that a group has no p'-torsion if any of its torsion elements is of order a power of p.

(3.3.1) Theorem. *Let Γ be an arithmetic group whithout p'-torsion; for any q, $0 \leq q \leq n$, let $H^q(\Gamma, \mathbb{Z}[1/p])_{\mathrm{tors}}$ be the torsion subgroup of $H^q(\Gamma, \mathbb{Z}[1/p])$. Then, we have a canonical isomorphism of $\mathbb{Z}[1/p]$-modules*

$$H_!^q(\Gamma, \mathbb{Z}[1/p]) \;\simeq\; \underline{H}_!^q(\mathbb{Z}[1/p])^\Gamma \oplus H_!^q(\Gamma, \mathbb{Z}[1/p])_{\mathrm{tors}}.$$

Moreover, these modules are finitely generated and $\underline{H}_!^q(\mathbb{Z}[1/p])^\Gamma$ is free (see (3.1.6)).

(3.3.2) Let R be a ring, equals to $\mathbb{Z}[1/p]$ or $\mathbb{Q}$. For any q, $0 \leq q \leq n$, let $C_!^q(R)^\Gamma$ be the set of elements of $C^q(R)^\Gamma$ which have finite supports modulo Γ. Note that the complex $(C^\cdot(R)^\Gamma, d^\cdot)$ is canonically isomorphic to that defined in the proof of

(3.2.7). Let $B_!^q(R)^\Gamma$ and $Z_!^q(R)^\Gamma$ be the intersections with $C_!^q(R)^\Gamma$ of respectively $B^q(R)$ and $Z^q(R)$. Let f be in $C^q(R)^\Gamma$, note that for any simplex σ of $\Gamma\backslash\mathfrak{I}^\star$, the expression $f(\sigma)$ makes sense. One has (if $q > 1$)

$$\delta^q(f)(s) = \sum_{\sigma\in\Gamma\backslash\mathfrak{I}_q^\star, \sigma>s} \eta(s,\sigma)\frac{\sharp(\Gamma_s)}{\sharp(\Gamma_\sigma)}f(\sigma).$$

Let moreover g be in $C^q(R)^\Gamma$ and suppose that one of f or g is of finite support modulo Γ, we set (see the proof of (3.2.7))

$$(f,g)_q^\Gamma = \sum_{\sigma\in\Gamma\backslash\mathfrak{I}_q^\star} \frac{1}{\sharp(\Gamma_\sigma)}f(\sigma)g(\sigma).$$

Let $1 \le q \le n$, $f \in C^{q-1}(R)^\Gamma$ and $g \in C^q(R)^\Gamma$, f or g being of finite support modulo Γ; it is easy to see that

$$(d^{q-1}(f), g)_q^\Gamma = (f, \delta^q(g))_{q-1}^\Gamma.$$

(3.3.3) Proposition. *For any q, $1 \le q \le n$, let $B_!^q(\mathbb{Z}[1/p])^\Gamma_{\text{“tors”}}$ be the set of $f \in Z_!^q(\mathbb{Z}[1/p])^\Gamma$ such that there exists $a \in \mathbb{Z}$, $a \neq 0$, with $af \in B_!^q(\mathbb{Z}[1/p])^\Gamma$ (i.e. the inverse image of $H^q(\Gamma,\mathbb{Z}[1/p])_{\mathrm{tors}}$ by the canonical morphism $Z_!^q(\mathbb{Z}[1/p])^\Gamma \longrightarrow H^q(\Gamma,\mathbb{Z}[1/p])$). We have the direct sum of $\mathbb{Z}[1/p]$-modules*

$$Z_!^q(\mathbb{Z}[1/p])^\Gamma = \underline{H}_!^q(\mathbb{Z}[1/p])^\Gamma \oplus B_!^q(\mathbb{Z}[1/p])^\Gamma_{\text{“tors”}}.$$

Proof. One has $\underline{H}_!^q(\mathbb{Z}[1/p])^\Gamma \subset Z_!^q(\mathbb{Z}[1/p])^\Gamma$ (see (3.2.7)).

(3.3.4) Lemma. **(i)** *$\underline{H}_!^q(\mathbb{Z}[1/p])^\Gamma$ is orthogonal to $B_!^q(\mathbb{Z}[1/p])^\Gamma_{\text{“tors”}}$, with respect to the scalar product $(\ ,\ )_q^\Gamma$ (see (3.3.2));*

(ii) *$\underline{H}_!^q(\mathbb{Z}[1/p])^\Gamma$ is a free $\mathbb{Z}$-module of finite rank.*

Proof of the lemma. Let $f \in \underline{H}_!^q(\mathbb{Z}[1/p])^\Gamma$, $g \in B_!^q(\mathbb{Z}[1/p])^\Gamma_{\text{“tors”}}$, $a \in \mathbb{Z} - \{0\}$ such that $ag \in B_!^q(\mathbb{Z}[1/p])^\Gamma$ and let h be a $q-1$-cochain such that $d^{q-1}(h) = ag$. One has

$$a(f,g)_q^\Gamma = (f, d^{q-1}(h))_q^\Gamma = (\delta^q(f), h)_{q-1}^\Gamma = 0$$

because $f \in Ker(\delta^q)$ (see (3.2.7)). It follows also from (3.2.7) that $\underline{H}_!^q(\mathbb{Z}[1/p])^\Gamma$ is torsion free, which implies (ii). $\square$

End of the proof of the proposition (3.3.3). Let $\mathcal{G}_q$ be a finite set of generators, over $\mathbb{Z}$, of $H^q(\Gamma,\mathbb{Z}[1/p])$, containing a set $\mathcal{G}'_q$ of generators of $H^q(\Gamma,\mathbb{Z}[1/p])_{\mathrm{tors}}$ and containing a basis $\mathcal{B}_q$ of $\underline{H}_!^q(\mathbb{Z}[1/p])^\Gamma$. Let $\tilde{\mathcal{G}}_q$ be a lift of $\mathcal{G}_q$ in $Z_!^q(\mathbb{Z}[1/p])^\Gamma$, containing $\mathcal{B}_q$. Let Z (resp. B) be the subset of elements of $Z_!^q(\mathbb{Z}[1/p])^\Gamma$ (resp. $B_!^q(\mathbb{Z}[1/p])^\Gamma_{\text{“tors”}}$) generated by $\mathcal{G}_q$ (resp. $\mathcal{G}'_q$); set $H = \underline{H}_!^q(\mathbb{Z}[1/p])^\Gamma$. Let $Z_\mathbb{Q}$, $B_\mathbb{Q}$ and $H_\mathbb{Q}$ be the same sets with $\mathbb{Q}$ in place of $\mathbb{Z}[1/p]$.

Note that the $\mathbb{Z}$-modules Z and B are free of finite ranks and that H is a submodule of Z, thus, with the previous lemma, we see that the formula $Z = H \oplus B$ implies the proposition. Indeed, because $H_{\mathbb{Q}} \cap Z = H$, it remains to prove that $Z_{\mathbb{Q}} = H_{\mathbb{Q}} \oplus B_{\mathbb{Q}}$.

Let $B_{\mathbb{Q}}^{\perp}$ the subspace of $Z_{\mathbb{Q}}$ orthogonal to $B_{\mathbb{Q}}$ with respect to the pairing $(\ ,\ )_q^{\Gamma}$. We have $Z_{\mathbb{Q}} = B_{\mathbb{Q}}^{\perp} \oplus B_{\mathbb{Q}}$. Now we prove that $H_{\mathbb{Q}} = B_{\mathbb{Q}}^{\perp}$. Let $f \in Z_{\mathbb{Q}}$ and let $f = u + d^{q-1}g$ be its decomposition with respect to the previous direct sum (u is in $B_{\mathbb{Q}}^{\perp}$ and g is a $(q-1)$-cochain). Let h be a $(q-1)$-cochain:

$$(\delta^q(f - d^{q-1}g), h)_{q-1}^{\Gamma} = (f - d^{q-1}g, d^{q-1}h)_q^{\Gamma} = (u, d^{q-1}h)_q^{\Gamma} = 0,$$

then $f - d^{q-1}g \in Ker(\delta^q)$ and hence $f - d^{q-1}g \in H_{\mathbb{Q}}$ (see (3.2.7)). Then $H_{\mathbb{Q}} \supset B_{\mathbb{Q}}^{\perp}$, the other inclusion is given by (3.3.4). $\square$

Proof of (3.3.1). For any q, $1 \leq q \leq n$, propositions (3.1.4) and (3.3.3) imply the formula of the theorem, the case $q = 0$ is easy. The other sentence comes from (3.1.6).

(3.3.5) Corollary. *Let Γ be an arithmetic group whithout p'-torsion; for any q, $0 \leq q \leq n$, we have a canonical isomorphism of $\mathbb{Q}$-vector spaces*

$$H_!^q(\Gamma, \mathbb{Q}) \ \simeq\ \underline{H}_!^q(\mathbb{Q})^{\Gamma}.$$

and these spaces are finite dimensional over $\mathbb{Q}$.

4 The locus of supports of harmonic cocycles and of cohomology.

Let Γ be an arithmetic group whithout p'-torsion. The $\mathbb{Z}[1/p]$-modules $\underline{H}_!^{\cdot}(\mathbb{Z}[1/p])^{\Gamma}$ and $H_!^{\cdot}(\Gamma, \mathbb{Z}[1/p])$ are finitely generated (see (3.3.1)), then there exists a finite subcomplex of $\Gamma\backslash\mathfrak{I}$ which contains all the supports modulo Γ of elements of these modules (the support of an element of these cohomology modules is defined by (3.1.4) and (3.1.5)). The purpose of this paragraph is to give a description of the locus of this subcomplex. Indeed, we first introduce a notion of cusps of an arithmetic group Γ, they are “the missing part of $\Gamma\backslash\mathfrak{I}$ at infinity”, and, secondly, we prove that “neighborhoods of this missing part at infinity” are given modulo Γ by a union of finitely many sectors of $\mathfrak{I}$, and that the complementary complexe of each of these neighborhoods is finite modulo Γ. The supports of the elements of $\underline{H}_!^{\cdot}(\mathbb{Z}[1/p])^{\Gamma}$ and of $H_!^{\cdot}(\Gamma, \mathbb{Z}[1/p])$ are modulo Γ outside sufficiently small neighborhoods of the cusps. These properties are known in the case where $n = 1$ (i.e. when the Building is a tree, see [Se 2] ch. II, §2.3).

4.1. The cusps.

In all this paragraph, Γ is an arithmetic subgroup of $G(K)$. Recall that $\mathfrak{I}_{\infty}$ is the spherical building at infinity of $\mathfrak{I}$ (see §2.3).

(4.1.1) Definition. *Let v_0 be a fixed vertex of $\mathfrak{I}$. For any chamber σ of $\mathfrak{I}_\infty$, let $\mathcal{S}_\sigma$ be a sector of $\mathfrak{I}$ beginning at v_0 and ending at σ (see (2.3.1) and (2.3.3)). Let σ and σ' be two chambers of $\mathfrak{I}_\infty$, we say that they are equivalent modulo Γ if*

$$sup_{\gamma\in\Gamma}\ \sharp((\mathcal{S}_\sigma \cap \mathcal{S}_{\gamma(\sigma')})_n) = \infty$$

i.e. if the number of chambers of $\mathcal{S}_\sigma \cap \mathcal{S}_{\gamma(\sigma')}$ is unbounded, as γ goes through Γ.
A Γ-equivalent class of chambers of $\mathfrak{I}_\infty$ will be called a cusp of Γ.

This notion of cusp does not depend on the choice of the vertex v_0. This is an equivalent relation on the set of chambers of $\mathfrak{I}_\infty$.

(4.1.2) Proposition. *The set of cusps of Γ is finite, it canonically one to one with $\Gamma\backslash G(K)/P(K)$.*

Proof. The second part of the proposition implies the first, because it is wellknown that

(4.1.3) Lemma. *The set $\Gamma\backslash G(K)/P(K)$ is finite.*

(see for instance [Go]).
Let σ_1,...,σ_d be chambers of $\mathfrak{I}_\infty$ which represent $\Gamma\backslash G(K)/P(K)$ (see (2.3.6)), let $\mathcal{S}_1$,...,$\mathcal{S}_d$ be sectors of $\mathfrak{I}$ which end respectively at σ_1,...,σ_d and which begin at the same vertex v_0 of $\mathfrak{I}$. Let $\mathcal{S}$ be a sector of $\mathfrak{I}$, begining in v_0, and, for any $l > 0$, let $\mathcal{S}(l)$ be the set of chambers of $\mathcal{S}$ with distance at most l from v_0. For all l there exists i and γ , there exists a sector $\mathcal{S}_{i,\gamma}$ beginning in v_0 and ending at $\gamma(\sigma_i)$, such that $\mathcal{S}(l) \subset \mathcal{S}_{i,\gamma}$; the conclusion now is a direct consequence of the definition (4.1.1). $\square$

(4.1.4) Remark. *Indeed, the preceeding proof means that the cusps of Γ are "rationnal" over the global field K (this is known in dimension 1: [Se] ch. II, §2.3).*
In the sequel, we will say equivalently that a cusp of Γ is a class of chamber of $\mathfrak{I}_\infty$ or an element of $\Gamma\backslash G(K)/P(K)$.

4.2 On the structure of $\Gamma\backslash\mathfrak{I}$.
The following result gives the main property of our notion of cusp. First we introduce notations which will be used in the rest of this chapter.

(4.2.1) let Γ be an arithmetic subgroup of $G(K)$. Let v_0 be a fixed vertex of the building $\mathfrak{I}$. Let σ_1,...,σ_d be chambers of $\mathfrak{I}_\infty$ which represent $\Gamma\backslash G(K)/P(K)$, i.e. which represent the cusps of Γ. Let $\mathcal{S}_1$,...,$\mathcal{S}_d$ be sectors of $\mathfrak{I}$ which end respectively at σ_1,...,σ_d and which begin at v_0. For any integer $l \geq 0$ and for any i, $1 \leq i \leq d$, let $\mathcal{S}_i^l$ be the subcomplex of $\mathcal{S}_i$ such that for any chamber C of $\mathcal{S}_i^l$, the (combinatorial) distance from C to the complementary complex $\mathcal{S}_i^c$ of $\mathcal{S}_i$ (in $\mathfrak{I}$) is at least l, i.e. such that for any chamber C' of $\mathcal{S}_i^c$, any geodesic from C to C' contains at least l chambers. Let

$$P(l) = \cup_{1\leq i\leq d} \cup_{\gamma\in\Gamma}\ \gamma(\mathcal{S}_i^l)$$

and $D(l)$ be its complementary complex in $\mathfrak{I}$.

$P(l)$ is, modulo Γ, what one has called, in the introduction of this paragraph, a "neighborhood of this missing part at infinity", this missing part being modulo Γ the union of the cusps. Note that Γ acts on $P(l)$ and $D(l)$.

(4.2.2) Theorem. *For all $l \geq 0$, the complex $\Gamma \backslash D(l)$ is finite.*

This theorem implies that $P(l)$ does not depend, up to a finite subcomplex modulo Γ, on the choices of the σ_i's and of the choice of the vertex v_0. One has also the following remark.

(4.2.3) Suppose that Γ is whithout p'-torsion, then, for l sufficiently large, the supports of the elements of $\underline{H}^{\cdot}_{!}(\mathbb{Z}[1/p])^{\Gamma}$ and $H^{\cdot}_{!}(\Gamma, \mathbb{Z}[1/p])$ are in $D(l)$.

All the rest of this §4 is devoted to the proof of the theorem (4.2.2).

First we reduce to the case $\Gamma = G(A)$. Let σ be a chamber at infinity which represents a cusp of $G(A)$ and let $\mathcal{S}$ be a sector of $\mathfrak{I}$ ending at σ. Let $g_1(\sigma), \cdots, g_r(\sigma)$, with $g_1, \cdots, g_r \in G(A)$, be representatives of the cusps of Γ, which are equal modulo $G(A)$ to the cusp σ of $G(A)$. Let $\mathcal{L}_1, \cdots, \mathcal{L}_r$ be sectors in $\mathfrak{I}$ ending respectively at $g_1(\sigma), \cdots, g_r(\sigma)$. There exists a choice of these last sectors such that, for any integer $l \geq 0$, the two complexes

$$\bigcup_{\gamma \in \Gamma,\ 1 \leq i \leq r} \gamma(\mathcal{L}_i^l) \quad \text{and} \quad \bigcup_{\gamma \in \Gamma,\ 1 \leq i \leq r} \gamma g_i(\mathcal{S}^l)$$

($\mathcal{L}_i^l$ and $\mathcal{S}^l$ are defined as in (4.2.1)) differ modulo Γ by finitely many chambers. This implies our assertion, because the number of cusps is finite.

(4.2.4) Then *we suppose now that* $\Gamma = G(A)$. We denote by C_0 and v_0 respectively the fundamental chamber and the fundamental vertex (see (2.2.4)).

(4.2.5) Let Y be a subset of $G(\mathbb{A}_f)$ which represents the set of double classes $G(K)\backslash G(\mathbb{A}_f)/G(\mathbb{O}_f)$. It is wellknown that Y is finite (indeed one to one with Pic$A$). For any $\underline{y} \in Y$ one sets

$$\Gamma_{\underline{y}} \;=\; \underline{y} G(\mathbb{O}_f) \underline{y}^{-1} \cap G(K).$$

These groups are arithmetic, we can suppose that $\underline{1} = (1, \cdots, 1) \in G(\mathbb{A}_f)$ is in Y, then we have $\Gamma_{\underline{1}} = G(A)$.

It is also wellknown that there exists a one to one map

$$G(K)\backslash G(\mathbb{A})/(G(\mathbb{O}_f) \times B_\infty) \to \coprod_{\underline{y} \in Y} \Gamma_{\underline{y}} \backslash \mathfrak{I}_n$$

(where $\mathfrak{I}_n$ is the set of chambers of the building $\mathfrak{I}$) induces by

$$G(\mathbb{A}) = G(\mathbb{A}_f) \times G(K_\infty) \to \coprod_{\underline{y} \in Y} \Gamma_{\underline{y}} \backslash \mathfrak{I}_n$$

which maps $\underline{g} = (\gamma \underline{y} \underline{k}_f, g_\infty)$ to $\gamma^{-1} g_\infty$ mod. $\Gamma_{\underline{y}}$ (where $\gamma \in G(K)$, $\underline{y} \in Y$ and $\underline{k}_f \in G(\mathbb{O}_f)$; $\underline{g}$ being given, $\underline{y}$ is well defined).

This last remark explains why some arguments of the proof of theorem (4.2.2) will be of adelic nature. This is the object of the next section.

4.3 Proof of theorem (4.2.2): the adelic part.

(4.3.1) Let $\mathfrak{V}$ be the set of normalized valuations of K. If $\underline{t} = (t_\omega)_{\omega \in \mathfrak{V}}$ is an idèle of K, i.e. is an element of $GL_1(\mathbb{A})$, we set

$$|\underline{t}| = \prod_{\omega \in \mathfrak{V}} |t_\omega|_\omega .$$

Let H be a subset of $G(\mathbb{A})$, let $\underline{g} = (\underline{g}_{i,j})$ be an element of H; for any integer i, $0 \le i \le n$, we set $|t_i(\underline{g})| = |\underline{g}_{i,i}|$, if it makes sense, which is supposed in the following definitions.

Let c and c' be two positive real numbers with $c' \le c$, we set

$$H_{c'} = \{\underline{g} \in H \ / \ \forall i \ 0 \le i \le n-1 \ c' \le |t_i(\underline{g})/t_{i+1}(\underline{g})|\},$$

$$H_{c'}^{c} = \{\underline{g} \in H \ / \ \forall i \ 0 \le i \le n-1 \ c' \le |t_i(\underline{g})/t_{i+1}(\underline{g})| \le c\},$$

$$H_{(c',c)} = \{\underline{g} \in H \ / \ \forall i \ c' \le |t_i(\underline{g})/t_{i+1}(\underline{g})| \ , \exists i \ |t_i(\underline{g})/t_{i+1}(\underline{g})| > c \ , \ 0 \le i \le n-1\}.$$

Let $\omega \in \mathfrak{V}$. The preceeding definitions make sense for a subset H of $G(K_\omega)$, if one considers, as usual, $G(K_\omega)$ as a subgroup of $G(\mathbb{A})$. In that case, to be precise, one will write ${}^\omega H_{c'}$, ${}^\omega H_{c'}^c$ and ${}^\omega H_{(c',c)}$ (the reason of that will be clear when one will consider subsets of $G(K)$, $G(K)$ being viewed as a subgroup of $G(K_\omega)$).

(4.3.2) Lemma. *There exits two real numbers $0 < c_0' < c_0$ such that, for all c' and c satisfying $c' \le c_0' < c_0 \le c$, the image in $G(K)\backslash G(\mathbb{A})/G(\mathbb{O})$*
1. *of $P(\mathbb{A})_{c'}$ is onto,*
2. *of $P(\mathbb{A})_{c'}^c$ is finite.*

One will suppose moreover (for technical reasons) that $c' \le 1$.

Proof. This lemma is a direct consequence of deep results of G. Harder (apply $g \mapsto g^{-1}$ to Sätze 2.1.1 and 2.2.2 of [Ha 1], see also §1.1 of [Ha 2]). □

The next proposition is the key result of this section. Before to set it, we introduce a notation.

(4.3.3) For any $\underline{y} \in Y$ (see (4.2.5)), let $\mathfrak{S}_{\underline{y}}$ be a subset of $G(K)$ one to one with the set of double classes $\Gamma_{\underline{y}} \backslash G(K)/P(K)$, i.e. a subset of $G(K)$ which represents the cusps of the arithmetic group $\Gamma_{\underline{y}}$ (see (4.1.2)).

(4.3.4) Proposition. *There exists a constant $\delta > 0$ satisfying the following property: let c' and c be such that $c' \leq c'_0 < c_0 \leq c$ and $\delta c' \leq c'_0 < c_0 \leq \delta c$ (see (4.3.2)), then there exists a finite subset $F \subset U(K)$ such that*

$$G(K)(P(\mathbb{A})_{(c',c)})(G(\mathbb{O}_f) \times B_\infty) \subseteq G(K)\left[\coprod_{\underline{y}\in Y} (\{\underline{y}\} \times E_{\underline{y}})\right](G(\mathbb{O}_f) \times B_\infty),$$

where for any $\underline{y} \in Y$, $E_{\underline{y}} = \mathfrak{S}_{\underline{y}} F({}^\infty T(K)_{(\delta c', \delta c)})\overline{W}$ (this is a subset of $G(K_\infty)$).

The constant δ does not depend on c' and c, but F depends on them. The proof of this proposition needs many lemmata.

(4.3.5) Lemma. *$P(\mathbb{A}_f) = U(K)T(\mathbb{A}_f)P(\mathbb{O}_f)$.*

Proof. Let $\underline{g} \in P(\mathbb{A}_f)$, $\underline{g} = (\underline{g}_{i,j})$. Let $\underline{t} = diag(\underline{g}_{0,0}, \cdots, \underline{g}_{n,n}) \in T(\mathbb{A}_f)$. We want to find $u = (u_{i,j}) \in U(K)$ such that $\underline{w} := \underline{t}^{-1} u \underline{g} \in P(\mathbb{O}_f)$. This gives the relations for $i \leq j$

$$\underline{w}_{i,j} = \sum_{1\leq k\leq j} \underline{g}_{i,i}^{-1} \underline{g}_{k,j} u_{i,k} \in P(\mathbb{O}_f).$$

$u_{i,i}, \cdots, u_{i,j}$ having been chosen, because K is dense in $\mathbb{A}_f$, we see easely that $u_{i,j+1}$ exists. $\square$

(4.3.6) Lemma. *Let X be a set of representatives in $GL_1(\mathbb{A}_f)$ of $GL_1(K)\backslash GL_1(\mathbb{A})_f/GL_1(\mathbb{O}_f)$. There exists a constant $\delta_1 > 0$ satisfying the following property: let c and c' be as in (4.3.2), for any $\underline{g} \in P(\mathbb{A})_{(c',c)}$ there exists $\underline{\tau} \in T(X)$ and $g_\infty \in {}^\infty P(K_\infty)_{(\delta_1 c', \delta_1 c)}$ such that*

$$\underline{g} \equiv (\underline{\tau}, g_\infty) \textit{ mod. } (P(K)\ ,\ P(\mathbb{O}_f) \times \{1\})$$

(this formula means mod. $P(K)$ on the left and mod. $P(\mathbb{O}_f) \times \{1\}$ on the right).

Proof. We write, following (4.3.5), $\underline{g} = (u\underline{\tau}\underline{\rho}, h_\infty)$ with $u \in U(K)$, $\underline{\tau} \in T(\mathbb{A}_f)$, $\underline{\rho} \in P(\mathbb{O}_f)$ and $h_\infty \in P(\mathbb{O}_\infty)$. We also write $\underline{\tau} = \gamma \underline{\tau}_1 \underline{\rho}_1$ with $\gamma \in T(K)$, $\underline{\tau}_1 \in T(X)$ (see the definition of X) and $\underline{\rho}_1 \in T(\mathbb{O}_f)$. We have

$$\underline{g} \equiv (\tau_1, \gamma^{-1} u^{-1} h_\infty) \textit{ mod. } (P(K)\ ,\ P(\mathbb{O}_f) \times \{1\})$$

and for all $i = 0, \cdots, n$ (see (4.3.1))

$$\mid t_i(\underline{g}) \mid = \mid t_i(\tau_1, \gamma^{-1} u^{-1} h_\infty) \mid,$$

then for all $i = 0, \cdots, n-1$

$$\mid t_i(1, \gamma^{-1} u^{-1} h_\infty)/t_{i+1}(1, \gamma^{-1} u^{-1} h_\infty) \mid =$$
$$\mid t_i(\tau_1, \gamma^{-1} u^{-1} h_\infty)/t_{i+1}(\tau_1, \gamma^{-1} u^{-1} h_\infty) \mid . \mid t_i(\tau_1, 1)/t_{i+1}(\tau_1, 1) \mid^{-1} =$$
$$\mid t_i(\underline{g})/t_{i+1}(\underline{g}) \mid . \mid t_i(\tau_1, 1)/t_{i+1}(\tau_1, 1) \mid^{-1}$$

We set $\delta_1 = min_{0\leq i\leq n-1, \tau_1 \in T(X)} \mid t_i(\tau_1, 1)/t_{i+1}(\tau_1, 1) \mid^{-1}$, which exists because X is finite. $\square$

(4.3.7) Lemma. *There exists a constant $\delta > 0$ satisfying the following property: let c and c' be as in (4.3.2), then for any $\underline{g} \in P(\mathbb{A})_{(c',c)}$ there exists $\underline{y} \in Y$, $\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_{\underline{y}}$ (see (4.3.3)) and $g_\infty \in ({}^\infty P(K_\infty)_{(\delta c', \delta c)})$ such that*

$$\underline{g} \equiv (\underline{y}, \sigma g_\infty) \ mod. \ (G(K)\ ,\ G(\mathbb{O}_f) \times \{1\}).$$

Proof. We have, following (4.3.6)

$$\underline{g} \equiv (\underline{\tau}, g_\infty) \ mod. \ (P(K)\ ,\ P(\mathbb{O}_f) \times \{1\})$$

with, in particular, $g_\infty \in {}^\infty P(K_\infty)_{(\delta_1 c', \delta_1 c)}$. There exists $\underline{y} \in Y$, $\gamma \in G(K)$ and $\underline{k} \in G(\mathbb{O}_f)$ such that $\underline{\tau} = \gamma \underline{y}\underline{k}$. Note that γ runs in a finite set depending only on X, because τ is in $T(X)$.

We set $\gamma^{-1} = \alpha\sigma e$ with $\alpha \in \Gamma_{\underline{y}}$, $\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_{\underline{y}}$ and $e \in P(K)$ (see (4.3.3)). One has

$$\underline{g} \equiv (\gamma \underline{y}\underline{k}, g_\infty) \ mod. \ (P(K)\ ,\ P(\mathbb{O}_f) \times \{1\})$$

$$\underline{g} \equiv (\underline{y}, \gamma^{-1} g_\infty) \ mod. \ (G(K)\ ,\ P(\mathbb{O}_f) \times \{1\})$$

$$\underline{g} \equiv (\alpha^{-1}\underline{y}, \sigma e g_\infty) \ mod. \ (G(K)\ ,\ P(\mathbb{O}_f) \times \{1\})$$

which implies, because $\alpha \in \Gamma_{\underline{y}} \subset \underline{y} G(\mathbb{O}_f) \underline{y}^{-1}$,

$$\underline{g} \equiv (\underline{y}, \sigma e g_\infty) \ mod. \ (G(K)\ ,\ G(\mathbb{O}_f) \times \{1\}).$$

As e runs in a finite set depending only on X (as the above γ's) and Y, there exists $\delta_2 > 0$, which does not depend on c' and c, such that $e g_\infty \in ({}^\infty P(K_\infty)_{(\delta_1\delta_2 c', \delta_1\delta_2 c)})$. □

(4.3.8) Lemma. *Let c and c' be as in (4.3.2). Then there exists a finite subset F of $U(K)$ satisfying the following property: for any $\underline{y} \in Y$ and any $\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_{\underline{y}}$ (see (4.3.3))*

$$\Gamma_{\underline{y}} \sigma F({}^\infty T(K)_{(c',c)}) P(\mathbb{O}_\infty) \ \supseteq \ \sigma({}^\infty P(K_\infty)_{(c',c)}).$$

Proof. We prove a little better: let Γ be an arithmetic group, then there exists a finite subset F_Γ of $U(K)$ such that

(4.3.9) $\quad ({}^\infty P(K_\infty)_{(c',c)}) = (\Gamma \cap U(K)) F_\Gamma ({}^\infty T(K)_{(c',c)}) P(\mathbb{O}_\infty).$

This implies the lemma, for $\Gamma = \sigma^{-1}\Gamma_{\underline{y}}\sigma$ and because σ and $\underline{y}$ run in finite sets.

Note that it is sufficient to prove (4.3.9) for $\Gamma = G(A)$, because $\Gamma \cap U(K)$ and $G(A) \cap U(K)$ are commensurable.

Let $R \subset K$ be a set of representatives of $\mathbb{F}(\infty)$ (the residue field at ∞), with $0 \in R$, let η_0 be the integer defined by

$$-\eta_0 \ = \ \max\{v_\infty(a) \ / \ a \in A, v_\infty(a) < 0\},$$

let $a_0 \in A$ which realises $-\eta_0$ and set ($\pi_\infty = \pi \in K$ is uniformising parameter at ∞)

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{R} &= \{\rho\pi^{-\eta}a_0^l \ / \ \rho \in R, 0 \leq \eta < \eta_0, l \geq 0, \eta + \eta_0 l > 0\}, \\ \Pi &= \{\pi^{-\eta}a_0^l \ / \ 0 \leq \eta < \eta_0, l \in \mathbb{Z}\}. \end{aligned}$$

It is easy to see that

$$({}^\infty P(K_\infty)_{(c',c)}) = ({}^\infty T(K)_{(c',c)})U(K_\infty)T(\mathbb{O}_\infty),$$

indeed, with straightforward calculations one can prove that

(4.3.10) $\quad ({}^\infty P(K_\infty)_{(c',c)}) = ({}^\infty T(\Pi)_{(c',c)})U(\tilde{R})P(\mathbb{O}_\infty).$

Let $t = \mathrm{diag}(t_0, \cdots, t_n) \in ({}^\infty T(\Pi)_{(c',c)})$ and $u \in U(\tilde{R})$ and set $tut^{-1} = (u_{i,j})$. We have for $i \leq j$ and when $u_{i,j} \neq 0$

$$| u_{i,j} |_\infty \geq | t_i/t_j |_\infty \geq (c')^{j-i} \geq (c')^n.$$

On the other hand, we know that there exists a real number ε satisfying the following property: for any λ in K there exists an a in A such that $| \lambda - a |_\infty \leq \varepsilon$. These two remarks lead to prove that for any $t \in ({}^\infty T(\Pi)_{(c',c)})$, for any $u \in U(\tilde{R})$, there exists $\gamma \in U(A)$ such that, if $(v_{i,j})$ denotes the matrix $\gamma^{-1}tut^{-1}$, if $i < j$ and $v_{i,j} \neq 0$, then

$$\varepsilon \geq | v_{i,j} |_\infty \geq (c')^n.$$

The set

$$F_1 := \{(v_{i,j}) \ / \ (v_{i,j}) = \gamma tut^{-1}, \gamma \in U(A), t \in ({}^\infty T(\Pi)_{(c',c)}), u \in U(\tilde{R}), \varepsilon \geq | v_{i,j} |_\infty \geq (c')^n \forall i,j\}$$

is finite modulo $P(\mathbb{O}_\infty)$ on the right (note that $\tilde{R}$ and Π are discrete); let F be a finite subset of $U(K)$ such that $F_1 \subset FP(\mathbb{O}_\infty)$.

Let $g \in ({}^\infty P(K_\infty)_{(c',c)})$ and write following (4.3.10) $g = tuh$, with $t \in ({}^\infty T(\Pi)_{(c',c)})$, $u \in U(\tilde{R})$ and $h \in P(\mathbb{O}_\infty)$; we have

$$g = tuh = (tut^{-1})tuh = \gamma^{-1}(\gamma tut^{-1})h$$

with $\gamma tut^{-1} \in FP(\mathbb{O}_\infty)$. This proves (4.3.9). $\square$

(4.3.11) Lemma. *There exists a constant $\delta > 0$ satisfying the following property: let c' and c be such that $c' \leq c'_0 < c_0 \leq c$ and $\delta c' \leq c'_0 < c_0 \leq \delta c$ (see (4.3.2)), then there exists a finite subset $F \subset U(K)$ such that*

$$P(\mathbb{A})_{(c',c)} \subseteq G(K) \coprod_{\underline{y} \in Y} \left[\{\underline{y}\} \times \left(\mathfrak{S}_{\underline{y}} F({}^\infty T(K)_{(\delta c', \delta c)}) \right) \right] (G(\mathbb{O}_f) \times P(\mathbb{O}_\infty))$$

Proof. Let δ be given by (4.3.7), let c and c' be such that $c' \leq c'_0$, $\delta c' \leq c'_0$ and $c \geq c_0$, $\delta c \geq c_0$ (see (4.3.2)). Let $\underline{g} \in P(\mathbb{A})_{(c',c)}$. We write as in (4.3.7)

$$\underline{g} \equiv (\underline{y}, \sigma g_\infty) \ mod. \ (G(K) \ , \ G(\mathbb{O}_f) \times \{1\})$$

with $g_\infty \in ({}^\infty(P(K_\infty)_{(\delta c',\delta c)})$.

We have, following (4.3.8), $\sigma g_\infty = \gamma \sigma e t \rho$ where $t \in ({}^\infty T(K)_{\delta c',\delta c)})$, $e \in F$, $\rho \in P(\mathbb{O}_\infty)$ and $\gamma \in \Gamma_{\underline{y}}$, $\gamma = \underline{y}\underline{k}\underline{y}^{-1}$ with $\underline{k} \in G(\mathbb{O}_f)$. Thus we see that modulo $(G(K) \ , \ G(\mathbb{O}_f) \times P(\mathbb{O}_\infty))$

$$\underline{g} \equiv (\underline{y}, \gamma\sigma e t \rho) \equiv (\gamma^{-1}\underline{y}, \sigma e t \rho) = (\underline{y}\underline{k}, \sigma e t \rho) \equiv (\underline{y}, \sigma e t). \quad \square$$

Proof of proposition (4.3.4). There exists finitely many elements p_i of $P(\mathbb{O}_\infty)$, $1 \leq i \leq i_0$, such that

$$G(\mathbb{O}_\infty) = \bigcup_{w \in \overline{W}, 1 \leq i \leq i_0} p_i w B_\infty$$

(because the existence of the canonical morphism $G(\mathbb{O}_\infty)/B_\infty \hookrightarrow G(\mathbb{F}(\infty))/P(\mathbb{F}(\infty)))$, then we have (as before, $\underline{1}$ means $(1, \cdots, 1) \in G(\mathbb{A}_f)$)

$$P(\mathbb{A})_{(c',c)}\Big(\{\underline{1}\} \times G(\mathbb{O}_\infty)\Big) = P(\mathbb{A})_{(c',c)}\Big(\{\underline{1}\} \times (\overline{W} B_\infty)\Big)$$

which gives with (4.3.11) the expected formula.

4.4 End of the proof of theorem (4.2.2).

To finish the proof, we need also the two following easy lemmata.

(4.4.1) Lemma. *Let $l > 0$ be an integer and let $\mathcal{T}_l$ be the set of elements of $T(K)$ which give on V_0 (the fundamental appartement) translations by vectors of the form $\sum_{0 \leq i \leq n-1} m_i e_i$ with $m_i \geq l$ for all i (see (2.2.1)).*

(1) *Let $\mathcal{S}_1$ be the sector of V_0 (see (4.2.1) and 2.3) beginning at v_0 (the fundamental vertex) and ending at the fundamental chamber at infinity, then*

$$(\mathcal{S}_1^l)_n \subseteq \mathcal{T}_l \overline{W} C_0 := \{twC_0 / t \in \mathcal{T}_l, w \in \overline{W}\} \subseteq (\mathcal{S}_1^{l-1})_n$$

where $\mathcal{S}_1^l$ is defined in (4.2.1), $(\mathcal{S}_1^l)_n$ is the set of chambers of $\mathcal{S}_1^l$, C_0 is the fundamental chamber, and $\overline{W}$ the linear part of the affine Weyl group W.

(2) *Let F a finite subset of $U(K)$ (as that defined in (4.3.4)). Recall that $\mathfrak{S}_{\underline{1}} \subset G(K)$ is a set of representatives of the cusps of $\Gamma_{\underline{1}} = G(A)$, i.e. of $G(A)\backslash G(K)/P(K)$; we can suppose that 1 is in $\mathfrak{S}_{\underline{1}}$ and represents the fundamental chamber at infinity. Then there exists an integer $\kappa \geq 0$ such that, for any $l \geq \kappa$,*

$$\mathfrak{S}_{\underline{1}} F \mathcal{T}_l \overline{W} C_0 \subseteq (\cup_{1 \leq i \leq d} \mathcal{S}_i^{l-\kappa})_n.$$

Proof. Part (1) is a direct consequence of calculations which prove that the closed chamber $\overline{C}_0$ is a fundamental domain for the action of $G(K_\infty)$ on $\mathfrak{I}$ (see [Bro] ch. I, §5.F anf the definition of $\mathfrak{I}$, as in (2.2.2)).

Part (2) follows from part (1) and from the fact that $U(K)$ stabilizes the fundamental chamber at infinity. $\square$

(4.4.2) Lemma. *Let $l > 0$ be an integer and let $c'_1 \leq 1$, c_1 be real numbers such that*

$$log(c_1) \geq l(n+1)log(\sharp\mathbb{F}(\infty)) - \frac{(n-1)(n+1)^2}{4}log(c'_1).$$

Then, $({}^\infty T(K)_{(c'_1,c_1)}) \subset \mathcal{T}_l$.

Remark. There exists such $c'_1 \leq 1$ and c_1 which moreover satisfy (4.3.4).

Proof. Let $t = diag(z_0\pi^{k_0}, \cdots, z_n\pi^{k_n})$ be an element of $T(K)_{(c'_1,c_1)}$, with z_i in $\mathbb{O}_\infty^\star \cap K$ and $k_i \in \mathbb{Z}$. This gives on V_0 the translation by the vector $\sum_{0\leq i\leq n-1} m_i e_i$ with, for all i, $m_i = -(k_0 + \cdots + k_i)$ (recall that $k_0 + \cdots + k_n = 0$). Because t is in $T(K)_{(c'_1,c_1)}$, one has, for all i, $k_i - k_{i+1} \leq -(log(c'_1))/log(\sharp\mathbb{F}(\infty))$ and there exists i_0 such that $k_{i_0} - k_{i_0+1} \leq -(log(c_1))/log(\sharp\mathbb{F}(\infty))$.

Let i be an integer, $0 \leq i \leq n-1$. For any integer j with $0 \leq j \leq i$ let $\alpha_{j,i} = (j+1)(n-i)/(n+1)$ and, when $i < j \leq n-1$, let $\alpha_{j,i} = (i+1)(n-j)/(n+1)$. Then we have $k_0 + \cdots + k_i = \sum_{0\leq j\leq n-1} \alpha_{j,i}(k_j - k_{j+1})$.

It follows from all these remarks that for all i

$$\begin{aligned} m_i &= -\sum_{0\leq j\leq n-1} \alpha_{j,i}(k_j - k_{j+1}) \\ &\geq \frac{1}{log(\sharp\mathbb{F}(\infty))}\Big((n-1)(log(c'_1))max_j(a_{j,i}) + (log(c_1))min_j(\alpha_{j,i})\Big) \end{aligned}$$

because $c'_1 \leq 1$ and $c_1 \geq 1$; this gives

$$m_i \geq \frac{1}{(n+1)log(\sharp\mathbb{F}(\infty))}\left(\frac{(n-1)(n+1)^2}{4}log(c'_1) + log(c_1)\right) \geq l. \quad \square$$

Now we can finish the proof of the theorem. Let $\delta > 0$ be the constant given by (4.3.4), let c' and c be such that $c' \leq c'_0 < c_0 \leq c$ and $c'_1 = \delta c' \leq c'_0 < c_0 \leq c_1 = \delta c$ (see (4.3.2)). Let $l > 0$ be an integer. We suppose moreover that l, c'_1 and c_1 satisfy part (2) of (4.4.1) and (4.4.2). Let φ be the canonical map

$$\varphi : \mathfrak{I}_n \to \Gamma_{\underline{1}}\backslash\mathfrak{I}_n$$

(recall that $\Gamma_{\underline{1}} = G(A)$).

It follows from (4.4.1) that

$$\varphi(\mathfrak{S}_{\underline{1}}F\mathcal{T}_l\overline{W}C_0) \subseteq \varphi(P(l-\kappa)_n).$$

One has also (see the choice of l)

$$({}^{\infty}T(K)_{(c_1',c_1)}) \subset \mathcal{T}_l.$$

Thus, it is sufficient to prove that the complementary complex of $\varphi(\mathfrak{S}_{\underline{1}}F({}^{\infty}T(K)_{(c_1',c_1)})\overline{W}C_0)$, in $\Gamma_{\underline{1}}\backslash\mathfrak{I}_n$, is finite. Let

$$G(\mathbb{A}) \xrightarrow{\eta} G(K)\backslash G(\mathbb{A})/(G(\mathbb{O}_f) \times B_\infty) \xrightarrow{\psi} \coprod_{\underline{y}\in Y} \Gamma_{\underline{y}}\backslash\mathfrak{I}_n$$

be the two maps of (4.2.5), the second, ψ, being one to one. It follows from (4.3.4) that $\psi^{-1}\circ\varphi(\mathfrak{S}_{\underline{1}}F({}^{\infty}T(K)_{(c_1',c_1)})\overline{W}C_0)$ is in the complementary set of $\eta(P(\mathbb{A})_{(c',c)})$ and this last set is finite (see (4.3.2)). $\square$

5 Euler-Poincaré characteristic.

Let Γ be an arithmetic group with no p'-torsion. In this paragraph we prove that a good choice of the locus of supports of elements of $\underline{H}_!^{\cdot}(\mathbb{Q})^\Gamma$ leads to determine "geometrically" the Euler-Poincaré characteristic of Γ for the cohomology with compact supports and with coefficients in $\mathbb{Q}$ (indeed our proof goes for all subfield of $\mathbb{R}$). This result is a generalization to dimension $n > 1$ of some aspects of [Se 2] ch. I §3.3, [Re], [Ge-Re] §3.2 (see §(1.1.3)).

(5.0.1) Let Γ be an arithmetic group. One denotes by $\chi_!(\Gamma,\mathbb{Q})$ its Euler-Poincaré characteristic for the cohomology with values in $\mathbb{Q}$ and with compact supports, i.e.

$$\chi_!(\Gamma,\mathbb{Q}) = \sum_{0\le q\le n} (-1)^q \dim_{\mathbb{Q}} H_!^q(\Gamma,\mathbb{Q}).$$

(5.0.2) Let l be an integer such that any cocycle in $C_!^{\cdot}(\mathbb{Q})^\Gamma$ has, up to a coboundary, its support in $D(l)$ (see (3.3.5), (4.2.2) and (4.2.3)).

Let $D \subset \mathfrak{I}$ such that

(i) as subspace of $\mathfrak{I}$, D is contractible and $\Gamma.D \supseteq D(l)$;

(ii) D is a finite subcomplex of $\mathfrak{I}$, (to be a subcomplex means that D contains all the faces of its simplices);

(iii) any cocycle in $C_!^{\cdot}(\mathbb{Q})^\Gamma$ has, up to a coboundary, its support in $\Gamma.D$ and the support of any element of $\underline{H}_!^{\cdot}(\mathbb{Q})^\Gamma$ is in $\Gamma.D$.

The aim of this paragraph is to prove the following

(5.0.3) Theorem. *Let Γ be an arithmetic group without p'-torsion and let D be as in (5.0.2). For any q, $0 \le q \le n$, let $D_{q,\Gamma}$ be the set of non oriented q-simplices σ of D, satisfying the following property: there exists $\gamma \in \Gamma$ such that $\gamma(\sigma)$ is a q-simplex of D and $\gamma(\sigma) \neq \sigma$. Let $g_q = \sharp(D_{q,\Gamma})$. Then one has*

$$\chi_!(\Gamma,\mathbb{Q}) = 1 + \sum_{0\le q\le n} (-1)^{q+1} g_q.$$

Proof. We use notations and definitions of §3. For any q, $0 \leq q \leq n$, let C^q_D, Z^q_D, B^q_D be respectively the subspace of $C^q_! := C^q_!(\mathbb{Q})^\Gamma$, $Z^q_! := Z^q_!(\mathbb{Q})^\Gamma$, $B^q_! := B^q_!(\mathbb{Q})^\Gamma$ (with $B^0_! := B^0_!(\mathbb{Q})^\Gamma := 0$) of elements with supports in $\Gamma.D$; one sets also $H^q_! := \underline{H}^q_!(\mathbb{Q})^\Gamma$ (see (3.3.5)). We have (see the proof of (3.3.4)) $Z^q_D = H^q_D \oplus B^q_D$ for $0 \leq q \leq n$.

Let $q < n$, the map $\delta^{q+1} : C^{q+1}_D \longrightarrow C^q_D$ is defined, its restriction to B^{q+1}_D is injective, indeed, if $d^q(f)$ is in $Ker\delta^{q+1}$ (with $f \in C^q_!$), then (see (3.3.2))

$$0 = (\delta^{q+1} d^q f, f)^\Gamma_q = (d^q f, d^q f)^\Gamma_{q+1}$$

thus $d^q f = 0$ (here we use that we are in $\mathbb{R}$). It follows then

$$C^q_D \simeq Z^q_D \times B^{q+1}_D \simeq H^q_! \times B^q_D \times B^{q+1}_D$$

this formula being also right when $q = 0, n$ if we set $B^0_D = B^{n+1}_D = 0$.

Let c_q, h_q, b_q be the dimensions over $\mathbb{Q}$ of respectively C^q_D, $H^q_!$, B^q_D. Let D_q be the set of q-simplexes of D. We have, $0 \leq q \leq n$,

$$c_q = \sharp(\Gamma\backslash\Gamma.D_q) = \sharp(D_q) - g_q$$

and, following the previous caculations,

$$\sum_{0\leq q\leq n} (-1)^q c_q = \sum_{0\leq q\leq n} (-1)^q (h_q + b_q + b_{q+1}) = 1 + b_0 + \sum_{0\leq q\leq n} (-1)^q h_q,$$

and $b_0 = 0$. We have found (see (3.3.5))

$$\chi_!(\Gamma, \mathbb{Q}) = 1 + \sum_{0\leq q\leq n} (-1)^{q+1} g_q + \Bigg(-1 + \sum_{0\leq q\leq n} (-1)^q \sharp(D_q)\Bigg).$$

The following wellknown lemma finishes the proof.

(5.0.4) Lemma. *Let D be a non empty subcomplex of $\mathfrak{I}$ which is, as a subspace, contractible. For any q, $0 \leq q \leq n$, let D_q be the set of q-simplices of D. Then*

$$\sum_{0\leq q\leq n} (-1)^q \sharp(D_q) = 1.$$

(5.0.5) *A problem.* Notations are those of theorem (5.0.3). We can suppose that, for any chamber C of D and for any $\gamma \in \Gamma$, $\gamma(C)$ is not in D (i.e. $D_{n,\Gamma}$ is empty). Let q be an integer, $0 \leq q \leq n-1$, and Γ_q be the subset of $\gamma \in \Gamma$ satisfying the following property: γ is in Γ_q if there exists a q-simplex σ of D such that $\gamma(\sigma)$ is again in D. Let G_0 be the subgroup of Γ generated by Γ_0 and Γ_{tors} (Γ_{tors} is the group generated by the torsion elements of Γ) and, for any q, $1 \leq q \leq n-1$, let G_q be the normal subgroup of G_{q-1} generated by Γ_q and Γ_{tors}. Set $G_n = \{1\}$. Then we can expect

$$G_0 = \Gamma$$

and

$$\mathrm{Hom}_{\mathrm{gr}}(G_q/G_{q+1}, \mathbb{Z}[1/p]) \simeq \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathrm{gr}}(\Pi_{q+1}(\Gamma\backslash\mathfrak{I}, \cdot), \mathbb{Z}[1/p]) \quad , \quad 0 \leq q \leq n-1$$

(we consider homotopy groups for a fixed point of $\Gamma\backslash\mathfrak{I}$). Such formulae would generalize properties of arithmetic groups in dimension 1 (see (1.1.3).

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